Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Local Government & Housing Committee

HB 2030

Brief Description: Creating a capitol city district.

Sponsors: Representatives Hunt and Williams.

Brief Summary of Bill

- The state capitol city may designate a capitol city district.
- To fund capital improvements in the district, the city may levy a sales and use tax of 1 percent, to be credited against the state's portion of this tax.

Hearing Date: 2/16/09

Staff: Sara del Moral (786-7291) and Thamas Osborn (786-7129)

Background:

The Capitol Committee.

Consisting of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Secretary of State, and the Commissioner of Public Lands, the Capitol Committee is charged with:

- managing construction and renovation of buildings on the Capitol Campus; and
- approving names for buildings on the Capitol Campus.

Summary of Bill:

The capitol city (city) may designate by ordinance a capitol city district (district) that includes the Capitol Campus, along with the core downtown retail areas and traffic corridors that are most impacted by the Capitol Campus and state buildings adjacent to it.

If the Capitol Committee recognizes the district by majority vote, the city may levy a sales and use tax of 1 percent within the district, to be credited against the state's portion of the sales and use tax. The levy may not go into effect until July 1, 2011.

House Bill Analysis - 1 - HB 2030

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Levy revenues may only be expended for capital improvements within the district. These include, but are not limited to, acquisition of and improvements to:

- public spaces;
- transportation corridors;
- signage;
- tourism enhancements;
- parking structures;
- beautification;
- public walkways;
- waterfront access:
- lighting; and
- safety amenities.

Every year, beginning July 2013, the city must provide the Capitol Committee with an accounting of:

- how funds were expended;
- the amount of funds pledged to match district funds in support of capital improvements; and
- a proposed capitol city district development plan for the subsequent year. This plan must include proposed funding allocations for the levy revenues.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested February 13, 2009.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.